

## Local Area Agreements and Rural Issues

Local Area Agreements (LAA) will include up to 35 designated targets from 198 national indicators (complemented by 16 statutory targets on educational attainment and early years). These targets are jointly agreed between government, Local Strategic Partnerships and local authorities. Over and above this, LAA may contain local targets reflecting local priorities. The local authority will be required to report on all 198 indicators against baselines and measurements that are currently being finalised.

### Proposed National Indicator Set

The 198 indicators are set out in Annex B of the 'National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Handbook of Definitions, Draft for Consultation', Nov. 2007.

See: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/543055>

Following the consultation, details of how these indicators will be measured will be published prior to coming into effect on 1st April 2008.

### Defra's National Indicators

National Indicator Number	Category	Details
185	Climate Change Mitigation	Percentage CO2 reduction in the local authority's own operations
186	Climate Change Mitigation	Percentage CO2 reduction per capita in the community
187	Fuel Poverty	Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating
188	Climate Change Adaptation	Progress towards a climate resilient local area
189	Flood Management	Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
190	Animal Health	Achievement in meeting standards for the control system for animal health
191	Reducing Waste	Household waste not re-used, recycled or composted per head (kg/head)
192	Reducing Waste	Percentage of household waste re-used, recycled and composted
193	Reducing Waste	Percentage of municipal waste landfilled
194	Level of Air Quality	Percentage reduction in NOx and primary PM10 emissions through local authority's own estate and operations
195	Local Street and Environmental Cleanliness	Litter, Detritus, Fly-posting and Graffiti.
196	Local Street and Environmental Cleanliness	Local Street and Environmental Cleanliness - fly-tipping
197	Improved Local Biodiversity	Proportion of Local Sites where active conservation management is being achieved

A number of other indicators also relate to climate change mitigation, such as those relating to public transport (175 – 178)

**Further guidance and support on the rural aspects of LAAs can be found here:**

Local Area Agreements – ‘Thinking Rural’ Commission for Rural Communities commentary notes to help all those seeking to rural proof LAAs

<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/local%20area%20agreements%20commentary.pdf>

<http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/notes%20for%20local%20regional%20discussionon%20the%20rural%20proofing%20of%20lqas.pdf>

Commission for Rural Communities guide to the official rural urban definition

[http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/CRC49\\_Defining%20Rural%20Eng.pdf](http://www.ruralcommunities.gov.uk/files/CRC49_Defining%20Rural%20Eng.pdf)

Yorkshire and The Humber Rural Evidence Base 2007:

<http://rural.yorkshirefutures.com/siteassets/documents/Rural/6/C/6CCD90FD-6E62-4DFF-9B9F-2C41288EB440/Rural%20Evidence%20Base%202007%20v2.pdf>

**Further guidance and support on the sustainability aspects of LAAs can be found here:**

LAAs should reflect sustainable development objectives and help deliver the UK Sustainable Development Strategy. The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) may carry out, or commission a **sustainability appraisal** (SA) of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS), which is the driving document of the LAA. Many SCS are being revised or revisited in the Region. The appraisal process helps:

a) as a check that evidence considered by the LSP and its partnerships in drawing up the LAA has been examined across the full range of issues.

b) to identify the extent to which social, economic, environmental objectives are integrated and to which the individual outcomes in the LAA can be delivered in a way that maximises environmental, social and economic benefits.

Further information on sustainability appraisal in the Yorkshire and Humber Region can be found at :-

<http://www.yhassembly.gov.uk/The%20Library/Regional%20Strategies/>. Further information is being developed as part of the agreement of the new Integrated Regional Framework <http://www.yhassembly.gov.uk/Our%20Work/Strategy%20Development/>.